

By the Queene.

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A Proclamation for adiournment of part of Michaelmas Terme. 1582.



As much as the Queenes Maiestie our soueraigne Lady is credibly informed, that the infection of the plague is at this present in sundry places, in and about the Citie of London, & in other places neere adioyning to the same: whereas by the continuance thereof, through the greater repaire and resort of her louing subiects, great peril and danger might not only ensue vnto her most royall person, but also to her most louing subiects repairing thither for their suites and causes, & thereby also giue occasion of dispersing of the same into other partes of the Realme, her Maiestie for the said necessarie considerations, and hoping that the same will by the goodnes of Almighty God, with the coldnes of the yere, & such wholesome orders as are taken in her said Citie, the rather cease by the adiournment of part of this next terme of Saint Michael now at hand from the vtas of the same, vntill the fourth returne of the saide Terme, called Mensis Michaelis next comming: Her Maiestie therefore of her especial fauour & clemencie, is pleased & contented to adioyne the saide Terme of Saint Michael, That is to say, from the vtas thereof vnto the said fourth retourne of the said Terme, called Mensis Michaelis next comming, which her Maiestie signifieth to al & singular her louing subiects of this her Realme, to thintent that they & euery of them, which hath cause or commandement to appeare in any of her Highnes Courtes at Westminster, in or at any daye or tyme from & after the said vtas of Saint Michael, may tarrie at their dwellinges, or where their busines otherwise shall lye, without resorting to any of the said Courtes for that cause before Mensis Michaelis next comming, and that without daunger of forfeiture, penaltie, or contempt to incurre towards her Highnes in that behalfe. And neuertheless her Maiesties pleasure is, that two of her Iustices, that is to say, of either Benche one, shall the first day of Michaelmas Terme, called Octabis Michaelis, according to the auncient order of her Lawes, keepe the Essoynes of the said Octabis Michaelis, at which vtas of Saint Michael, writtes of Adioynement shalbe directed to the said Iustices, giuing them authoritie to adioyne the sayde Terme of Saint Michael, That is to say, from the vtas thereof vntill Mensis Michaelis, as before is said: And the said adiournement shalbe made in the first day of the saide vtas, commonly called the day of the Essoynes. And further her Maiesties pleasure is, that all matters, causes & suites, depending in any of her other Courtes, betweene partie & partie, as in her Highnes Courtes of Chauncerie, Starre Chamber and Exchequer, Courtes of Wardes and Lyueries, Duchie of Lancaster and Courtes of Bequestes shall haue continuance, and the parties shall haue day from the date of these presents vntill Mensis Michaelis, as before is saide.

Provided alway, & her Maiesties pleasure & commandement is, that all Collectors, Receiuers, Sheriffes & other Accomptants, and all other persons that should or ought to accompt or pay any somme or sommes of money, in any of her Maiesties Court of Exchequer, Court of Wardes & Lyueries, or of her Duchie of Lancaster, or in any of them, or to enter into any atcompt in any of the said Courts, shal repaire into the accustomed places at Westminster, where her Highnes hath appointed such Officers & Ministers, as for that purpose her Maiestie hath thought expedient, & there to pay & doe in euery behalfe, as though no such Proclamation of Adiournment had bene had or made. And her Highnes further pleasure & commandement is, that all Sheriffes shall returne their writtes & processe against all such Accomptants & detters at the dayes therein appointed. And if any person or persons, who ought to accompt or pay any somme or sommes of money to her Maiestie in any of the said Courtes & places aforesaid, do make default therein, That then her Highnes writtes and processe shalbe awarded, and sent forth against euery such person and persons, and the same to be duely and orderly serued and returned by the Sheriffes and Officers thereunto appointed, in such like manner and forme as the same should haue bene, if this present Proclamation had not bene made. And if any Sheriffe or other Officer shall make default or be negligent in seruing, executing and returning of any the writtes & processe aforesaid: That then euery such Sheriffe and other Officer shall incurre such paynes and penalties, as by the sayde Courts, or any of them shalbe taxed & assessed: Willing and commanding all & euery her Maiesties Sheriffes, Officers, Ministers and subiects, to whome it doeth or shall appertaine, to obserue and keepe their assemblies & apparances, with all their Retornes and certificates, in her Highnes sayd Courtes at Westminster, in Mensis Michaelis next comming, then and there to be holden and kept, and there to do their offices and dueties in euery behalfe, in like manner and forme as they should or ought to haue done, if this present Proclamation had not bene had or made, as they will answere to the contrary at their perils.

Given at our Mannor of Otlands, the xiiii. day of September, in the foure & twentieth yere of our raigne.

God saue the Queene.

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